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only allowed claims 24-33 are pending in the application, with claim 24 being the independent claims. Rejected claims 1-23 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter therein. No claims are sought to be added. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested. Therefore, upon entry of the foregoing amendment, the present application contains only allowed claims 24-33. As such, the Examiner is specifically requested to expeditiously issue a Notice of Allowance for the present application.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the foregoing remarks demonstrate that entry of these amendments places the present application in condition for allowance. All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Dated: March 27, 2002

Respectfully submitted,

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